

## State of Rhode-Island and Providence-Plantations. In General Assembly, September session, A.D. 1789

*State of Rhode-Island and Providence-Plantations. In GENERAL ASSEMBLY*, September Session, **A. D.** 1789.

### ***An ACT relative to a CONVENTION in this State.***

**WHEREAS** the Congress of the United States, by a Resolve passed on the 28th Day of September, 1787, recommended to the Legislature of this State to call a Convention within the same, for the Purpose of adopting the Constitution of a General Government, formed by a Convention of Twelve of the said States, assembled in Philadelphia in the Year 1787:

And whereas this Assembly, on the most careful Examination of the Powers vested in them by the Freemen of this State, are of Opinion, that the same are limited to the Administration of the existing Constitution of the State, and do not extend to devising or adopting Alterations therein:

And whereas, notwithstanding this General Assembly, convinced that the Freemen of this State retain in their own Hands the entire Power of adopting or rejecting the said Constitution, at their Session held in Providence in February, 1788, passed an Act for authorizing Town-Meetings in this State, for the special Purpose of giving the Freemen an Opportunity of adopting or rejecting said Constitution, grievous Complaints are still made, by some, that said Constitution hath not been adopted by this State, nor a Convention called for that Purpose:

Be it therefore Enacted by this General Assembly, and by the Authority thereof it is hereby Enacted, That the Freemen of the several Towns in this State assemble in Town-Meeting, in their respective Towns, on the Third Monday of October next, for the Purpose of giving

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Instructions to their Representatives respecting the Appointment of a State Convention, for the Purpose of considering and determining on said Constitution; to the Intent that this Assembly, at their Session in October next, may be fully acquainted with the Sentiments of the People at large relative to calling a Convention for the Purpose aforesaid.

It is Ordered, That the Secretary transmit, as soon as may be, printed Copies of this Act to the several Town-Clerks in this State: And that the said Town-Clerks issue their Warrants for calling Town-Meetings, agree- ably to this Act.

***A true Copy: Witness, HENRY WARD, Sec'ry.***

Printed by **J. CARTER.**

Town Clerk East-Greenwich